

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1064
By Rinks

A RESOLUTION to commend Representative Ken Givens for his honorable and astute service to the people of this State as a member of the Tennessee General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this Body should pause to specially recognize their fellow legislators who have performed their elected duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion, and whose efforts to excel have brought substantial benefits to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ken Givens is one such estimable public servant who, throughout his twelve-year tenure in the House of Representatives, has dedicated himself to improving the quality of life for his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Givens' illustrious career in the House of Representatives will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 2002 Session of the 102nd General Assembly, as he has announced his retirement from this august Body; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Givens has for many years been a prominent figure in the political, social, and civic lives of Hancock and Hawkins counties, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, the good people of House District 9 evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Ken Givens by electing him as their Representative to the General Assembly, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, a strong advocate for children, Representative Givens has sponsored legislation to enhance school activities, to increase the number of school nurses, and to encourage young people to stay in school and to avoid the use of drugs and alcohol; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Chairman Givens sponsored and passed legislation creating and funding a Coordinated School Health Program; ten pilot projects for the Coordinated School Health Program were implemented this year and are enjoying tremendous success; and

WHEREAS, a valuable member of the Select Committee on Children and Youth and the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, Representative Ken Givens has also served with distinction as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee since his appointment to this important post in the 99th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Givens, a farmer who is a gentleman rather than a gentleman farmer, is strongly committed to utilizing a portion of the monies received by the State, pursuant to the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement, to fund innovative pilot projects in the fields of Agriculture and Health; and

WHEREAS, a tireless proponent of progress, he has championed his constituents' needs, and his meritorious service has helped to perpetuate the superb quality of life that is enjoyed by the good people of his district and indeed, all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, his legislative efforts have garnered Chairman Givens the support and admiration of the Tennessee Forestry Association and the Tennessee Nurses Association; both organizations have honored him as their Legislator of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Givens truly appreciates the responsibilities as well as the privileges of citizenship; he has served as a member of many community, civic, and professional organizations, including the American Legion, the Hawkins County Cattlemen's Association, and the National Rifleman's Association; and

WHEREAS, a former President of the Helping Hands Agency, Chairman Givens earned his Bachelor of Science degree in History and Political Science and his Master of Arts degree in Political Science from East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Representative Ken Givens is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Connie; together, they are the proud parents of three children, Brian, Amy, and Kelli, and the loving and devoted grandparents of Zoe; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Givens' announcement of his retirement from the General Assembly has greatly disappointed and disconcerted his fellow lawmakers, Democrats and Republicans alike, and his considerable talents and energies will be sorely missed by the good people of Hancock and Hawkins counties; and

WHEREAS, this Body finds it appropriate to bid farewell to our friend and colleague, Representative Ken Givens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Chairman Ken Givens on twelve years of meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, and his many contributions to agriculture and his fellow farmers as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of Hawkins and Hancock counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to him our best wishes for much success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Representative Givens as a token of our esteem.